



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Committee Bill No. 5504

LCO No. 3404

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION ON THE
PROBATE COURT SYSTEM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a Blue
2 Ribbon Commission on the Probate Court System. The commission
3 shall conduct a study of the probate court system in this state,
4 including, but not limited to, an examination of issues regarding
5 probate court venue and jurisdiction and the future of the probate
6 court system.
- 7 (b) The commission shall consist of the following members:
- 8 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 9 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;
- 10 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
11 Representatives;
- 12 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

13 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
14 Representatives;

15 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;

16 (7) The Probate Court Administrator, or a designee of the Probate
17 Court Administrator; and

18 (8) Two persons appointed by the Governor.

19 (c) Any member of the commission appointed under subdivision
20 (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a
21 member of the General Assembly. The members appointed under
22 subsection (b) of this section shall include at least one judge of probate
23 representing a large size probate district, at least one judge of probate
24 representing a medium size probate district and at least one judge of
25 probate representing a small size probate district, as such district sizes
26 are determined by the appointing authority in consultation with the
27 Probate Court Administrator, provided such district sizes shall be
28 represented equally among such member judges.

29 (d) All appointments to the commission shall be made no later than
30 thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be
31 filled by the appointing authority.

32 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
33 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the
34 commission, from among the members of the commission. Such
35 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the commission, to be
36 held no later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

37 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
38 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to judiciary
39 shall serve as administrative staff of the commission.

40 (g) Not later than January 1, 2004, the commission shall submit a
41 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing

42 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
43 relating to judiciary, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a
44 of the general statutes. The commission shall terminate on the date that
45 it submits such report or January 1, 2004, whichever is earlier.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a Blue Ribbon Commission on the Probate Court System to study the future of the probate court system and make recommendations to the General Assembly regarding issues of probate court venue and jurisdiction.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. SPALLONE, 36th Dist.

H. B. 5504